

HOWARD L. JAMES.

JUNE 14, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CASTLE, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 635.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 635) granting an increase of pension to Howard L. James, have examined the same and the evidence relating thereto and respectfully report:

This bill as amended proposes to increase from \$8 to \$18 per month the pension of Howard L. James, of Madera, Cal.

The soldier served from August 14, 1861, to October 28, 1864, in Company G, Ninth Indiana Volunteers, when he was honorably discharged. He received a gunshot wound of the left hand in the service, and has been pensioned first at \$4 and subsequently at \$8 per month for the disability resulting therefrom. The soldier had a good record and served faithfully until discharged. While the injured hand can be used to a certain extent for certain purposes, it is useless for manual labor. He has hypertrophy of the heart and his pulse is rapid and intermittent. He also suffers from chronic dysentery and hemorrhoids. The most, if not all, of these disabilities were incurred in the service. Only a portion can be shown to be of service origin, but your committee is fully satisfied that he has disabilities of service origin that entitle him to a pension of \$18 per month.

The bill is therefore reported back with the recommendation that it pass when amended as follows:

In line 4 strike out the words "increase the pension" and insert in lieu thereof the words "place the name."

In line 6 strike out the words "from six dollars to thirty" and insert in lieu thereof the words "on the pension roll and pay him a pension at the rate of eighteen."

At the end of line 7 add the following: "And in lieu of the pension he now receives."

Amend the title so it will read: "A bill increasing the pension of Howard L. James."

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, *County of Madera, ss:*

In the pension claim (No. 46930) of Howard L. James, late a sergeant of Company G, Ninth Regiment Indiana Infantry Volunteers.

Personally came before me, a county clerk in and for the aforesaid county and State, J. L. Butin, a citizen of Madera, whose post-office address is Madera, Madera County, State of California, well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, who, being duly sworn, declares in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

I am a practicing physician, and that the disability of the above-named soldier is as follows, to-wit: I have made an examination of Howard L. James. I find on the left hand a large cicatrix about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches by three inches about the middle of the metacarpal bones of the index and middle fingers; the bones have been broken and a part taken out, leaving a false joint. The hand is useless for performing manual labor. He has hypertrophy of the heart, which is one-third larger than normal. Pulse after exercise, 115; at rest, 95 and intermittent. He is also suffering from chronic dysentery and hemorrhoids. He is entirely unable to earn a living by manual labor.

I further declare that I have been a practitioner of medicine for fifteen years, and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

J. L. BUTIN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of March, A. D. 1898.

And I hereby certify that the affiant is a practicing physician in good professional standing. The contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known to him before swearing; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

[SEAL.]

C. J. EUBANKS,

County Clerk of Madera County, State of California.

